

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CHIEF HEARING OFFICER DIRECTIVE

DOCKET NO. 2021-324-WS ORDER NO. 2022-23-H

MARCH 29, 2022

CHIEF HEARING OFFICER: David Butler

DOCKET DESCRIPTIONS:

Application of Kiawah Island Utility, Incorporated to File Proposed Changes in Rates, Charges, Classifications and/or Regulations for Water and Sewer Service

MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Summary of Status Conference, Including, But Not Limited to, Establishment of the Date and Time for the Settlement Hearing

CHIEF HEARING OFFICER'S ACTION:

The Chief Hearing Officer conducted a status conference with the parties and other Commission Staff at 3 pm on Tuesday, March 29, 2022. The discussion centered on the fact that the parties had entered into a Settlement Agreement, and a Settlement Hearing is to take place on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 10:00 AM. Present were Charles Terreni, Esquire and Scott Elliott, Esquire representing the Applicant, Kiawah Island Utility, Incorporated, Alex Knowles, Esquire, and Donna Rhaney, Esquire, representing the Office of Regulatory Staff, Roger Hall, Esquire, and Connor Parker, Esquire representing the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs, and John J. Pringle, Jr., Esquire, representing the Town of Kiawah Island. Commission Staff present for the virtual status conference was JoAnne Hill, General Counsel, Sharon Besley, Esquire, Sandra Moser, Esquire, Norman Scarborough, Commission Technical Director, John Powers, CPA, and David Butler, Esquire, Chief Hearing Officer and Special Counsel.

Chief Hearing Officer Butler told the parties that the Settlement Hearing in this Case would be held on Monday, April 4, 2022, beginning at 10 AM. Mr. Terreni noted that the Company would present the settlement testimony of Craig Sorensen and Becky Dennis as a panel. Mr. Knowles stated that the Office of Regulatory Staff would present the testimony of Dawn Hipp. The parties agreed that the settlement testimony and exhibits would be pre-filed on or before Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 5 pm, although an effort would be made to pre-file earlier, if possible. The testimony and exhibits of other witnesses previously pre-filed will be stipulated into the record of the case without objection from any party.

The Chief Hearing Officer reminded the parties that verifications were necessary for testimony admitted into the record from parties not present in the hearing room.

Discussions were also held about possible exhibits for proposed orders in the case. The Chief Hearing Officer stated that the parties (at least the Company) should consider three exhibits for their proposed Orders: 1) the Settlement Agreement; 2) Updated Financials, if any; and 3) the Rates for service resulting from the evidence in the case.

Discussion was also held about the Company submitting a late-filed exhibit outlining updated rate case expenses, as well as discussing such expenses in the proposed Order.

All parties stated that the attorneys and witnesses for the parties would be appearing live in the Commission hearing room for the Settlement Hearing on the case.

There being no further business to discuss, the status conference was adjourned.